

1 Artemis Accords (Source: The Hindu)

ARTEMIS ACCORDS

COOPERATING FOR PEACEFUL EXPLORATION OF SPACE

A set of non-binding principles for civil space exploration and cooperation, inspired by the Artemis program's goals of returning humans to the Moon and preparing for missions to Mars and beyond.

WHAT ARE THE ARTEMIS ACCORDS?

The Artemis Accords are a voluntary, non-binding set of principles unveiled by NASA and the U.S. Department of State in 2020. They provide a framework for international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful use of outer space, including the Moon, Mars, comets and asteroids.

CORE PRINCIPLES

PEACEFUL PURPOSES
Space exploration will be conducted for peaceful purposes and the benefit of all humanity.

TRANSPARENCY
Activities will be conducted in a transparent manner and information will be shared.

INTEROPERABILITY
Partners will promote interoperability of systems to support safe and efficient operations.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
Partners will provide assistance to personnel in distress and ensure their safe return.

SPACE RESOURCES
Partners will enable the responsible exploration and use of space resources.

DECONFLICTING ACTIVITIES
Partners will act to avoid harmful interference with others' space activities.

WHO HAS SIGNED?

38+ SIGNATORIES and growing...

Countries that share a commitment to responsible, peaceful, and sustainable exploration of space.

United States	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	Japan
France	Germany	Italy	India	UAE
Brazil	South Korea	Singapore	New Zealand	Ukraine

(List not exhaustive)

WHY IT MATTERS

- Promotes responsible behavior in space exploration and use.
- Enhances safety, sustainability and long-term stability in space.
- Encourages international cooperation and builds trust among nations.
- Supports economic opportunities through space resources and innovation.
- Lays the foundation for a sustainable human presence beyond Earth.

INDIA & ARTEMIS ACCORDS

- India signed the Artemis Accords on **27 September 2023**.
- Reinforces India's commitment to peaceful, responsible and inclusive use of outer space.
- Opens doors for deeper collaboration with like-minded space-faring nations.
- Supports India's vision of becoming a global leader in space exploration and innovation.

★ The Artemis Accords represent a shared vision: explore together, responsibly and for the benefit of all.



DATE: 12 AUGUST 2026

2 National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) (Source: The Hindu)

*Namami Gange Programme is a **Central Sector Scheme** implemented by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) with **World Bank assistance**, aimed at rejuvenating and conserving the Ganga River through pollution abatement, ecological restoration, and sustainable community participation.*

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Jal Shakti
- It is being implemented by the National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga also known as the National Ganga Council.
- This mission was established on 12th August 2011 **under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as a registered society.**

Objective

- The mission incorporates rehabilitating and boosting the existing STPs (Sewage Treatment Plants) and instant short-term steps to curb pollution at exit points on the riverfront in order to check the inflow of sewage.
- To maintain the continuity of the water flow without changing the natural season variations.
- To restore and maintain the surface flow and groundwater.
- To regenerate and maintain the natural vegetation of the area.
- To conserve and regenerate the aquatic biodiversity as well as the riparian biodiversity of the river Ganga basin.
- To allow participation of the public in the process of protection, rejuvenation and management of the river.

3 Notifiable Disease (Source: The Hindu)

- **What is it?:** Diseases are legally required to be reported to government authorities for monitoring and preventing outbreaks.
- **Power to Declare Notifiable Disease:** Lies with the Centre and State Government under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and other public health laws.
- **Common Notifiable Diseases in India:**
 - **Infectious Diseases:** Tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS, Cholera, Malaria, Plague, Dengue, COVID-19.
 - **Non-Communicable Diseases:** Cancer (some states), mental health disorders (increasing inclusion).
 - **Others:** Japanese Encephalitis, Measles, Rabies, H1N1, and Leprosy.